



Assistant Secretary Powell pictured on the right with Spanish Secretary of State for Cooperation Leyre Pajin at the launch of the European Fulbright Symposium in Toledo, Spain. Also pictured are Maria Jesus Pablos (back left), Executive Director of the U.S.-Spain Fulbright Commission, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Academic Programs Thomas Farrell (middle). The Symposium brought together a key group of Fulbright Commissions including partner government and U.S. representatives of the binational boards and Fulbright Executive Directors.

## Assistant Secretary of State Dina Habib Powell

Dina Habib Powell was nominated by President George W. Bush to be Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs on April 29, 2005, and was confirmed by the United States Senate unanimously on June 24, 2005. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice also designated Ms. Powell as Deputy Under Secretary of State and Principal Deputy to Ambassador Karen Hughes, the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. Assistant Secretary Powell leads the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), the team that administers exchange programs that are among the most effective tools of public diplomacy to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries. Previously, Assistant Secretary Powell served as Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel, a senior staff member at the White House, where she led the team that recruited thousands of candidates for senior positions in the Bush administration and provided final recommendations to the President for all political appointees throughout the Executive

Branch, including members of the Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet, Ambassadors, and appointees to Presidential Boards and Commissions. Assistant Secretary Powell has been Director of Congressional Affairs for the Republican National Committee and was a staff member of then-U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Texas). She is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Member of the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders. Assistant Secretary Powell graduated with honors from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor's Degree in Humanities. She was born in Cairo, Egypt.

At her confirmation hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Dina Powell said, *"...The President and Secretary Rice have made America's dialogue with the world a top priority within the Administration and the State Department... Our nation must engage with the rest of the world. But to be successful, we must listen. Our interaction with the world must be a conversation, not a monologue. Many of these conversations begin with exchange programs run by the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). These exchanges are a strategic pillar of our nation's public diplomacy."*



Assistant Secretary Powell (center) with Fulbright alumni in Ramallah.